

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a home product supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:
  - a) a supply chain system computer of an independent supply chain manager receiving data from a plurality of independent home product outlets of a home product franchise supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the completed sale amounts of home products by the independent home product outlets which completed sale amounts are not generated by sales via the network, each of the independent home product outlets utilizing at least one associated independent home product distributor and independent home product supplier, and wherein the data is provided at the sole discretion of the respective independent home product outlet;
  - b) a supply chain computer parsing the data from a plurality of the independent home product outlets by the at least one independent home product distributor and the at least one independent home product supplier associated with the independent home product outlet supplying the data;
  - c) generating an electronic order form based on the parsed data for ordering home products from a the at least one independent home product distributor associated with respective independent home product outlet supplying the data of the home product supply chain;
  - d) transmitting the parsed data to the independent home product distributor associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received of the home product franchise supply chain utilizing the network;

- e) transmitting the parsed data to the independent home product supplier associated with the home product outlet from which the data was received of the home product supply franchise chain utilizing the network; and
- f) the supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager forecasting aggregated activity in the home product supply chain utilizing the data;
- g) sending the electronic order form to the at least one independent home product distributor associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received; and
- h) the supply chain computer of the independent supply chain manager providing electronic access via the network to the forecast to the at least one independent home product distributor and the at least one independent home product supplier associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received only after identity verification.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the data is made accessible to the home product outlets, the home product distributor, the home product supplier via a network-based interface.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the home product outlets, the home product distributor, and the home product supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for managing a home products supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:

an electronic storage; and

a set of processors that use the electronic storage and include among them the following logic elements

- a) logic for a supply chain system computer of an independent supply chain manager receiving data from a plurality of independent home product outlets of a home product franchise supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the completed sale amounts of home products by the independent home product outlets which completed sale amounts are not generated by sales via the network, each of the independent home product outlets utilizing at least one associated independent home product distributor and independent home product supplier, and wherein the data is provided at the sole discretion of the respective independent home product outlet;
- b) logic for parsing the data from a plurality of the independent home product outlets by the at least one independent home product distributor and the at least one independent home product supplier associated with the independent home product outlet supplying the data;
- c) logic for generating an electronic order form based on the parsed data for ordering home products from a-the at least one independent home product distributor associated with respective independent home product outlets supplying the data of the home product supply chain;
- d) logic for transmitting the parsed data to the independent home product distributor associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received of the home product franchise supply chain utilizing the network;
- e) logic for transmitting the parsed data to athe independent home product supplier associated with the home product outlet from which the data was received of the home product franchise supply chain utilizing the network; ~~and~~
- f) logic for the supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager forecasting aggregated activity in the home product supply chain utilizing the data;

g) logic for sending the electronic order form to the at least one independent home product distributor associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received; and

h) logic for the supply chain computer of the independent supply chain manager providing electronic access via the network to the forecast to the at least one independent home product distributor and the at least one independent home product supplier associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received only after identity verification.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the data is made accessible to the home products outlets, the home products distributor, the home products supplier via a network-based interface.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

12. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the home products outlets, the home products distributor, and the home products supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for managing a home products supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:

a set of computer usable media having computer readable program code embodied therein to be executed by a computer, the computer readable program code comprising

a) computer code for a supply chain system computer of an independent supply chain manager receiving data from a plurality of independent home product outlets of a home product franchise supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the completed sale amounts of home products by the independent home product outlets which completed sale amounts are not generated by sales via the network, each of the independent home product outlets utilizing at least one associated independent home product distributor and independent

home product supplier, and wherein the data is provided at the sole discretion of the respective independent home product outlet;

b) computer for parsing the data from a plurality of the independent home product outlets by the at least one independent home product distributor and the at least one independent home product supplier associated with the independent home product outlet supplying the data;

c) computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the parsed data for ordering home products from a the at least one independent home product distributor associated with respective independent home product outlets supplying the data of the home product supply chain;

d) computer code for transmitting the parsed data to the independent home product distributor associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received of the home product franchise supply chain utilizing the network;

e) computer code for transmitting the parsed data to a the independent home product supplier associated with the home product outlet from which the data was received of the home product franchise supply chain utilizing the network; and

f) computer code for the supply chain system computer of the independent supply chain manager forecasting aggregated activity in the home product supply chain utilizing the data;

g) computer code for sending the electronic order form to the at least one independent home product distributor associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received; and

h) computer code for the supply chain computer of the independent supply chain manager providing electronic access via the network to the forecast to the at least one independent home product distributor and the at least one independent home product supplier associated with the independent home product outlet from which the data was received only after identity verification.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 13~~14~~, wherein the data is made accessible to the home products outlets, the home products distributor, the home products supplier via a network-based interface.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the Internet.

18. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the home products outlets, the home products distributor, and the home products supplier each forecast utilizing the data.